

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 973 without my signature.

I believe it is important for the state to encourage students who choose to participate in career technical education programs to enter into the workforce, if that is their chosen career path. However, it is unclear whether or not waiving the fees that they are required to pay is a deterrent to their entry into the job market. Furthermore, any lost revenue from waivers that are provided by this bill will either result in a decrease in service, or have to be covered by the program's other licensees, since all of the Department of Consumer Affairs' licensing programs are fully supported by licensing fees.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger